## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 EC BRU 09370 172025Z

2.1

**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /057 W ------ 023424

R 171911Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9787 INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 1215 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CONFIDENTIALEC BRUSSELS 9370

MOSCOW FOR UNDERSECRETARY ROBINSON

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ETRD EIND

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION PROPOSAL FOR MULTILATERAL STEEL

CONVERSATIONS

1. EC DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS EDMUND WELLENSTEIN USED OCCASION OF LUNCH OCTOBER 17 FOR AMBASSADOR DENT TO INFORM US HE WILL PROPOSE, DURING INFORMAL DINNER FOR XCSS BUREAU OCTOBER 27, THAT MAJOR IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS OF STEEL IN OECD HOLD EARLY MEETING UNDER OECD AUSPICES TO DISCUSS WORLD STEEL TRADE PROBLEMS. HE MENTIONED THAT HE HAD RAISED THIS PROPOSAL INFORMALLY WITH ENDERS AND JAPANESE REP. MIYAZAKI LAST WEEK DURING PREPCON SESSIONS AND WAS NOW INFORMING US OF HIS INTENTION TO BRING IT UP MONDAY IN XCSS CONTEXT.

2. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE COMMISSION'S MAIN OBJECTIVE IN PROPOSING SUCH A DISCUSSION WAS TO RELIEVE MAJOR PRESSURES DEVELOPING FROM EC STEEL INDUSTRY FOR UNILATERAL IMPORT RESTRICTIONS TO COPE WITH SERIOUS EUROPEAN STEEL CRISIS. WHILE HE WOULD NOT GO INTO DETAIL ABOUT WHAT COMMISSION CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 EC BRU 09370 172025Z

HOPED WOULD COME OUT OF SUCH DISCUSSION, HE SAID COMMISSION

WANTED TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR "GENTELMEN'S AGREEMENT" THAT WOULD STABILIZE LEVELS OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS AT LEAST UNTIL GLOBAL RECOVERY FROM RECESSION BEGAN TO TAKE HOLD. SUCH ARRANGEMENT MIGHT SERVE TO HEAD OFF TENDENCIES TOWARD FORMAL IMPORT RESTRICTIONS AND EFFORTS BY CERTAIN EXPORTERS LIKE JAPANESE OR SPANISH TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PURELY BILATERAL VOLUNTARY ARRANGEMENTS TO WHICH THEY ARE NOT PARTIES.

3. WELLENSTEIN EMPHASIZED THAT COMMISSION'S INTENTION TO MAKE THIS PROPOSAL HAD NOT YET BEEN MADE KNOWN TO MEMBER STATES AND ASKED THAT WE NOT DISCUSS IT WITH EC COUNTRIES UNTIL THAT PROCESS HAD BEEN COMPLETED, WHICH HE EXPECTED TO OCCUR PRIOR TO MONDAY EVENING MEETING.GREENWALD

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: POLICIES, STEEL, IMPORTERS, EXPORTERS, IMPORT CONTROLS, MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 17 OCT 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975FCBRI 109370

Document Number: 1975ECBRU09370 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750362-0063 From: EC BRUSSELS Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751044/aaaabmtt.tel Line Count: 74

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 24 APR 2003

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <28 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: EC COMMISSION PROPOSAL FOR MULTILATERAL STEEL CONVERSATIONS

TAGS: ETRD, EIND, EEC, (WELLENSTEIN, EDMUND)
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006